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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 09/918,117
Applicant(s): Akira TSUBOUCHI, Kiyoshi OKUBO and Yasushi
WATANABE
For: HOLLOW RACK SHAFT
Confirmation No.: 2600
Customer No.: 24731
Docket No.: 18733/00060
Filed: July 30, 2001
Group Art Unit: 3682
Examiner: Bradley J. Van Pelt

RECEIVED

JUL 14 2004

GROUP 3600

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited
with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in
an envelope addressed to: **MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**,
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA
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June 6, 2004

Date of Deposit

Douglas A. Sorensen

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered
Representative

Signature

July 6, 2004

Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

This is in response to the Office Action dated April 9, 2004, which provides for a
response period ending July 9, 2004.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.